

Niger

Population: **20.67 million**
GDP Growth: **5% annually**
GDP/Cap (PPP): **\$970**
Ease of Doing Business Ranking: **150**

"Power Africa's collaboration with ANPER is without any doubt one of the major steps forward taken by the agency to accelerate electricity access to the rural populace."

- HAMIDINE Salouhou, Director General, ANPER

ENERGY SECTOR OVERVIEW

Niger, per their National Electrification Strategy, envisions reaching 60% access by 2027. However, Niger's ability to achieve this ambitious goal is constrained by challenges in the power sector. As a result, Niger's government is working to expand its electricity supply and encourage investment in the energy sector to stimulate the economy. Niger is already taking the necessary steps to improve energy markets by creating, in 2015, a regulatory body ARSE (Autorité de Regulation du Secteur de l'Energie) to increase transparency and fair competition among numerous energy actors. The Government also created ANPER (Agence Nigérienne de Promotion de l'Electrification en milieu Rural), which is mandated with designing, implementing, and monitoring rural electrification programs throughout the country. Other recent reforms include a joint Ministerial order that eliminates taxes on domestic solar energy production kits and wind generation equipment to enable a larger number of households to access electric energy, a new electricity act that will authorize the establishment of IPPs, and ongoing work with consultants and the African Legal Support Facility to bolster the legal and regulatory framework for mini-grids.



GENERATION CAPACITY

Installed Capacity: 140 MW

- Diesel: 43%
- Coal: 57%

Power Africa New MW to date

- Reached Financial Close: 0



CONNECTIONS

Current Access Rate: 15%

- Rural: 4% Urban: 62%

Households without Power: 16 million

- Target: Universal Access by 2035

**Power Africa New Off-Grid
Connections: 28,000**

INVESTMENT AND ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

Biggest Issues and Bottlenecks

1. Technical capacity in the sector
2. Creditworthiness of utility companies
3. Security Issues

Power Africa Interventions

1. Technical assistance for rural electrification
2. Transaction assistance for off-grid companies
3. Technical assistance on competitive tenders
4. Capacity building for local lenders



POWER AFRICA'S ENGAGEMENT IN NIGER

MW GENERATION

Power Africa maintains a regional USAID transaction advisor, based in Dakar, to respond to opportunities in West African countries, including Niger. Technical assistance and capacity building related to competitive tenders, power purchase agreements (PPAs), and local financing also contribute to MW Generation in Niger.

CONNECTIONS

Power Africa is providing support to Niger to increase rural electrification rates, and recently signed a formal letter of cooperation with the rural electrification agency, ANPER, to accelerate energy access in the country. Power Africa is also providing technical assistance in multiple areas including mini-grid development, increased off-grid rural electrification, and off-grid policy and strategy development. Through a USAID regional transaction advisor, Power Africa supports private sector expansion into the Nigerien off-grid market and has facilitated 28,053 solar connections since 2013.

ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

Through the Climate Economic Analysis for Development, Investment, and Resilience (CEADIR) program, USAID is building the capacity of local lenders in the clean energy sector. The Department of Commerce and USAID have also provided technical assistance to the Government of Niger on competitive tenders. This support seeks to enhance the enabling environment for private sector investment in Niger.

SUCCESSSTORY

In the off-grid space, multiple projects have been piloted by private developers who seek to establish and promote off-grid rural electrification. ANPER has an estimated 152 mini-grids projects in the pipeline for 152 villages, and 127 villages will be supplied with individual solar kits per household, amounting to 15,000 households. Two mini-grids have already been constructed with 2nos 40kWp and 1no 28.5kWp. Five villages have also been supplied with solar kits to provide schools, health centers, revenue generating activities, mosques and households with lighting. These achievements are critical investments for impoverished populations in rural Niger, providing essential access to electricity.

ABOUT POWER AFRICA

Power Africa is comprised of 12 U.S. Government Agencies, over 140 private companies, and 16 bilateral and multilateral development partners to support sub-Saharan governments by working together to increase the numbers of people with access to power. Power Africa's goal is to achieve 30,000 MW of new generated power and 60 million new connections by 2030 to reach 300 million Africans.

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